Summary of the Outcomes of the Forestry Sector Stakeholder Workshop in Atlanta, GA July 12–14, 2011

The USDA Forest Service sponsored a Forestry Sector Stakeholder Workshop in Atlanta, GA on July 12—14, 2011. NGOs, Academics, professional organizations and Federal Agencies all participated. Kathy Jacobs presented an overview of the NCA expectations and Gary Yohe presented on risk and uncertainty frameworks. Much of the workshop focused on small group sessions, during which participants discussed ideas and provided inputs on 1) Risk and Uncertainty Frameworks, 2) Effects of Climate Change on Forest Disturbance, 3) Interactions with Land Use Change & Population, 4) Adaptation & Mitigation to Climate Change, and 5) Carbon Dynamics & Management. Within each session, participants focused their input on identifying the critical scientific issues; critical management and policy implications; identifying models, data and syntheses that have emerged in the last 5 years; and identifying issues that are likely to become increasingly important by 2020 and beyond.

Dave Peterson and Jim Vose, USDA Forest Service leads on the forestry technical input, and Toral Patel-Weynand, INCA taskforce member, circulated and solicited comments on the technical input outline and a timeline for the workshop report and technical input. The workshop report will be completed within the next few months; the technical input is targeted to be ready for external peer review by December 1, 2011 and subsequent submission to NCADAC by March 1, 2012. Technical input co-authors have been identified, and a meeting among all lead- and co-authors on October 5–6, 2011 will facilitate progress on the chapter.